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INFORMATION ON YUGOSLAV EMIGRANTS

NUMBER OF YUGOSLAV EMIGRANTS -- London, Poruka (an anti-Tito weekly), 16 Mar 53

According to an official report of the Yugoslav State Secretariat of Internal Affairs, 1,133 emigrants returned to Yugoslavia in 1952. The majority of returnees were Slovenians and Serbians; they totaled 394 and 250 respectively. Returnees came mostly from the following countries: Austria, 394; Germany, 150; Greece, 148; Italy, 134; and Trieste, 131.

Poruka calls attention to Jacques Vernant's The Refugee in the Postwar World, published in 1951 under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation, which stated that there were 135,000 Yugoslav refugees.

IRO statistics show that approximately 7,000 refugees returned to Yugoslavia between 31 July 1947 and 30 June 1951. From that date to the end of 1952, less than 3,000 persons returned to Yugoslavia, while there were at least as many refugees from it. Therefore, there are 125,000 to 130,000 Yugoslav emigrants abroad.

The IRO resettled 74,000 emigrants, including 22,000 in Australia, 14,000 in the US, 10,000 in Great Britain, 10,000 in Argentina, 7,000 in Canada. An additional 13,000 were registered and awaiting help from the IRO. In addition, there were a large number not under the jurisdiction of the IRO.

GIFTS FROM YUGOSLAV EMIGRANTS -- Belgrade, Ekonomska politika, 13 Aug 53

From 1920 to 1938, Yugoslav emigrants abroad forwarded approximately 15 billion dinars in money orders to Yugoslavia. In 1938, emigrants' investments in Yugoslavia totalled about 2 billion dinars, or about 40 million dollars. These statistics did not include money that was forwarded through private banks, money transfers through a third country, etc.

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According to the National Bank of Yugoslavia, incoming money orders and legacies from emigrants totalled 361 million dinars in 1946, 400 million in 1947, 214 million in 1948, 149 million in 1949, 98 million in 1950, 61 million in 1951, and 1,393,000,000 in 1952. The high receipts during the first postwar years were due to legacies left during the war. Decreases in receipts were mostly due to the low exchange rate for dinars in comparison with price levels. For instance, dinars obtained in exchange for money orders could not begin to purchase the commodities which could be bought with the money in the country from which the money originated. In addition, certain commodities could not even be procured in Yugoslavia, while others were not available on the free market. Consequently, attempts were made to aid recipients of such money by giving them special ration coupons for the procurement of designated commodities, but this did not prove successful. This was the status of affairs until the end of 1951.

Consequently, after 1951, Yugoslav emigrants resorted to forwarding packages instead of foreign exchange currency; such packages were forwarded duty free. The total weight and value of packages forwarded to Yugoslavia by Yugoslav emigrants were as follows: in 1946, 2,124,706 kilograms, which were valued at 319 million dinars; in 1947, 4,773,163 kilograms (716 million dinars); in 1948, 3,193,000 kilograms (479 million dinars); in 1949, 5,786,000 kilograms (868 million dinars); in 1950, 8,191,950 kilograms (1,229,000 dinars); in 1951, 9,534,760 kilograms (1,430,000,000 dinars); and in 1952, 4,981,000 kilograms (4,483,000,000 dinars).

The decrease in the weight of packages forwarded in 1952 was due to limits being placed on the type and quantities of commodities which could come into Yugoslavia duty free. The increase in the value of the packages in 1952 was due to the change in 1952 of dinar parity. Actually, the value of money orders and packages forwarded was 35 percent less than in 1951.

EMIGRANT COMMISSION -- Belgrade, Sluzbeni list FNRJ, 29 Jun 53

By decree of 26 June 1953, the Federal Executive Council established the Commission for Questions Involving Emigrants (Komisija za pitanja iseljenika).

The commission has a president, secretary, and a designated number of members appointed by the Federal Executive Council. The commission has a representative from each of the following: State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs (Drzavni sekretarijat za vanjske poslove), federal State Secretariat for Internal Affairs (savezni Drzavni sekretarijat za unutrasnje poslove), federal State Secretariat for the National Economy (savezni Drzavni sekretarijat za poslove narodne privrede), Commission for Cultural Connections With Foreign Countries (Komisija za kulturne veze sa inozemstvom), a representative from the emigrant organization in each republic, and other individuals concerned with problems involving emigrants.

By decree of 26 June 1953, the following were appointed to the Commission for Questions Involving Emigrants: president, Lidiya Sentjurc, national deputy of the Federal National Assembly; secretary, Mirko Cukovic, former president of the Commission for Religious Questions; and members, Janko Smole, secretary of the Council for the Economy in the Federal Executive Council (Odbor za privredu Saveznog izvrsnog vijeca); Vlado Valencak, official of the Commission for Cultural Connections With Foreign Countries; Gojko Bozovic, second adviser in the State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; Josip Marcelja, senior adviser in the State Secretariat for Internal Affairs; Stevan Lojen, vice president of the Council of the Society of Croatian Emigrants (Odbor matice iseljenika Hrvatske); Dr Ljubo Leontic, member of the Council of the Society of Croatian Emigrants; Zima Vrscaj, secretary of the Society of Slovenian Emigrants

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(Iseljenicka matica Slovenije); Jovan Djajic, secretary of the Association of Emigrants and Returned Emigrants of Serbia (Udruzenje iseljenika-povratnika Srbije); Vlado Maleski, secretary of the Council of Macedonian Emigrants; and Salem Ceric, member of the Main Council of SSRN (Socijalistick: Savez radnog naroda, Socialist Association of Working People) of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

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